



# Up the Hill

## An Oak Hill Collaborative Publication

2020 has definitely been a year full of firsts, and "I hope that doesn't happen ever again"s. Regardless of it all, the important part is that it's over and is finally coming to a close. We here at the Collaborative are incredibly excited for the future of 2021, and are constantly on the lookout for new opportunities within our community particularly with respect to Digital Advantage. Before we catapult into the future however, this month's newsletter is going to take a stroll down memory lane. Up the Hill has been active for less than a year, and yet there are still plenty of wonderful non-profit stories that should be remembered before we start a new year.

If you're excited as well, let us know! Send us an email about what news you'd like written about, or to just say hi. You can also reach us on our social media pages, all of which can be found on the services page.

## 2020 May Be Over , But COVID-19 Isn't

Despite the need to celebrate, we want to take a moment to remind everyone that while the holidays can be a cheery time - we are still in a pandemic. The vaccines aren't completed yet, and we urge all to take the same cautions as before so to ensure the well-being of yourself and those around you. Wear a mask, keep the gatherings small, and keep your hands and workplace sanitized. Together, and only together, we will rise above this!

-

ALL PROTOCOLS, INCLUDING MASK WEARING, ARE STILL MANDATORY AT THE COLLABORATIVE.

## Contents

### Special Interest Articles

Year in Review	2
Children's Christmas Bash	3
Broadband Stimulus Update	3
Meet The Collaborative	3

### OHC October Services

Makerspace Night Update	4
Raspberry Pi Online	4
Social Media	4

2020 will go down in history as one of the most life altering years for us all, from our community here in Youngstown to cities across the nation. The first case of COVID-19 was confirmed in January, and since then we've all had to learn how to live life with at least one foot in a digital world.

For some, 2020 was a year of great triumph. Others had to make difficult decisions.

However, many answered the call of those in need, aiding them where they could and all coming together as a community.

Everywhere family members helped one another learn Zoom, organizations delivered food to the elderly, and much more. Let's take a moment to remember some of the efforts that happened right here at the Collaborative.



*"The new year stands before us, like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written."  
- Melody Beattie*



## Senior Support Action Group - Food Bank Distribution

Back in March, League of Women Voters and various organizations came together to support the *Senior Support Action Group* – which is honed in on the accepting of donations and organization/distribution of these donations to those in need during this time. Specifically targeted are the elderly who are unable to safely get their own groceries due to health concerns. Monday to Thursday they worked diligently, using the Makerspace floor to facilitate a safe gathering of volunteers to ensure that the items donated were safe/usable, prioritizing perishables, and coordinating deliveries.



**URC - P.A.A.R.C**

As of part of their COVID-19 relief effort, they have come up with the P.A.A.R.C initiative – Project Aid and Assist Returning Citizens  
Two Jails, the Carter houses (is comprised of three houses total), and two apartment complexes were given free face masks thanks to this effort. "To help the 1/3 unheard during times of pandemic"



## R.E.S.P.E.C.T - Children's Christmas Bash

Recently R.E.S.P.E.C.T "«<sup>a</sup>-«®Ÿ· μ' ) & 'and ±±««®j Ÿ· μ°μj · «<sup>s</sup>» «®Ÿj š«Ÿ Eugenia Atkinson Recreation Center, put together a Christmas miracle for š· «±» one hundred underprivileged kids in the Mahoning area. ( «š«š°«-±±««®°μj μ®œj Ÿ«©°μj μ«š«a; ®· -«<sup>a</sup>-«®Ÿ««® š«Ÿšz μj Ÿj Ÿ«š· Ÿz«±«aj; ®j«š· R.E.S.P.E.C.T was able to Ÿj· μj· ©®j œ«°μj «œ«©š· + «μj·

## Ohio Urban Renaissance - How to Make a Difference

A couple of months ago, Ohio Urban Renaissance went live on Facebook to discuss local issues that need to be remedied, as well as how we as a community can act to see these changes through. It was hosted in two separate locations, with the connecting medium being Zoom to ensure everyone had a voice in the conversation.



Originally they had wanted to give everyone a fresh haircut to go with their Christmas gifts, which is why it was going to be hosted at the Eugenia Atkinson Recreation Center. Given considerations with recent COVID-19 updates however they found it best to just have the donated gifts delivered to the homes of the children instead.

When asked what the next move was, Miller gladly said that they're looking to take kids to a horse riding ranch by March to give them opportunities and experiences they would normally not have. Volunteers are always welcome and can reach out to Miller by corresponding to our email on the services page.

## Letter from the Director - "OHC Digital Advantage Initiative"

3

As part of our comprehensive approach to bridging the Digital Divide, the Collaborative continues to work for the Mahoning Valley community by

1. Educating residents on how to use computers and other digital devices more effectively, including on-site, at location and virtual classes
2. Making cheaper hardware available to residents, particularly those socioeconomically disadvantaged.
3. Developing cheaper, faster broadband in conjunction with a variety of partners and providers.

While the pandemic has limited our ability to teach in person classes, this year we produced an outstanding video series that provides excellent instruction in our famous Raspberry Pi course for students. (Thanks to IT Director Anthony Hake and his generous and brilliant techie friends). Raspberry Pi After School not only gives students valuable computer skills, including introductory coding, students get to keep their computers after building them in class, thus making hardware available to them for free.

A special thanks to tcf Bank (formerly Chemical) for a generous contribution of \$5,000 to the Raspberry Pi After School program, which will enable us to fund our virtual programming and, hopefully, subsidize some of the costs of purchasing computer parts and Raspberry Pi's.

The Collaborative also makes computer equipment available free of charge on-site with a 15 unit computer lab, six 3D printers, a CNC router, and a fully stocked digital recording studio, all computer powered.

Our latest contribution is "Hardware 4 Homes", part of our "Digital Advantage Initiative" where we get used laptops and desktops (thanks to BDI International and Carl James) then refurbish (thanks again to Anthony Hake) and sell them at low prices to the public. We have processed approximately 30 computers so far, and recently have entered into an agreement with the local Goodwill industries and a national organization known as PC's for People (PC4P) where we will help PC4P distribute large quantities of inexpensive, refurbished computers, as well as mobile "hotspots" which make broadband available cheaply and conveniently.

As representative of the Collaborative, recently I also have been appointed to serve on several Eastgate Developmental committees, advising them on broadband deployment in Mahoning, Trumbull, and Ashtabula Counties, utilizing several very large community grants. I am proud to share my expertise.

Patrick V. Kerrigan, Executive Director



### Meet the Collaborative

Who is Dr. Mike McNair? McNair is a friend and tenant of the Collaborative, as well as owner and publisher for the locally owned and operated Buckeye Review news outlet. This paper is sent to over 20 cities across 26 states. This publication is centric to telling the stories of people of color both local to Youngstown and across the nation, thanks to the power of Internet networking and being a member of the NNPA or National Newspaper Publishers Association.

Through his role as a publisher with Buckeye Review, McNair feels that he also "embodies the struggle of African Americans" everywhere, and with this empathy he and his Wife operate pastoral counseling services through "A Pair of Docs". This is an ACPE certified nonprofit service that works with groups, couples, and individuals to help them sort out their troubles while maintaining an equilibrium between spiritual and clinical psychological healing.

In his free time McNair loves to read, history books mostly. He also loves to play the keyboard, and plans on being a published writer some day. Why not come in and say hi to him sometime?

## Q/A? Contact Us!

507 Oak Hill Ave  
Youngstown Ohio, 44502  
330 - 518 - 5884

[Oakhillcollaborative@gmail.com](mailto:Oakhillcollaborative@gmail.com)

*We believe that we cannot have true revitalization in a socio-economically depressed area without some economic opportunity.*

Find us on the Web:

[www.Oakhillcollaborative.org](http://www.Oakhillcollaborative.org)

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/OakHillCollaborative/>

Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/OHCollaborative>

Youtube:

Search - Oak Hill Collaborative Online

Click - [Click Here For Link!](#)

Instagram:

@Oakhillcollaborative

LinkedIn:

[www.linkedin.com/company/oak-hill-collaborative-inc/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/oak-hill-collaborative-inc/)



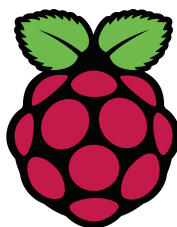
**OAK HILL**  
COLLABORATIVE



**OAK HILL**  
MAKERSPACE

## Oak Hill December Services:

### Raspberry Pi Online



## Raspberry Pi

We expect our Raspberry Pi program to expand greatly in the upcoming year even as the pandemic imposes restrictions - we are making our virtual classes available to any school or group that is interested. It is here they are taught something new about some puts, and by week three they are give their own Raspberry Pi Computer to keep! Learn more about this six week

Online program, or to apply to be added to our calendar for 2021, be sure to reach out to the Collaborative.

### Makerspace Night - Closed for the Year!

Just a quick update to let everyone know that there will be no more Makerspace Night events for the year of 2020. As we move into the new year we'll keep everyone updated as to when we start doing



**OAK HILL**  
MAKERSPACE

makerspace night again. If there is explicit need for an appointment or you just want one last tour before the year is up feel free to right out at [anthony@oakhillcollaborative.org](mailto:anthony@oakhillcollaborative.org)